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June 18, 2014

The Honorable Daniel Elliott, Chairman The Honorable Ann Begeman, Vice Chairman The Honorable Debra Miller, Commissioner United States Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, S.W. Washington D.C. 20423

Dear Members of the Board:

I write to provide you with our biweekly update on BNSF's network performance and the status of our hiring, capital and service goals. This letter follows our June 4, 2014 update and reflects performance through June 13.

## **Overall Service Performance:**

Since our last biweekly report, BNSF has continued to make good progress against our goals for investment in equipment, infrastructure and hiring, and to move significant volumes on our network. BNSF has moved higher volumes in all but one of the AAR reporting weeks 10 through 24 in 2014 than we did in 2013; over that same 15-week period, BNSF moved 150,691 more units in 2014 than we did in 2013.

The progress we are making on velocity continues to be mixed across our network with slower velocity on the Northern Transcon. Unfortunately since our last report, we have experienced severe weather disruptions on our Northern operating region. Soft ground resulting from the last remaining deep frost thawing out of the ground led to track instability and subsequent service disruptions in several locations across three Northern Subdivisions. We are currently experiencing flooding that has washed out track at several locations in the North. Our team is working hard and focused on restoring service in each of these locations as quickly as conditions allow.

As reported below, we have been able to reduce the number of agricultural past dues, but our coal volumes have been impacted as weather-related service interruptions combined with velocity demands have resulted in a sluggish network. We have undertaken several actions to regain momentum and velocity as quickly as possible and deliver the coal our customers require. There is aggressive coordination between train operations and maintenance activity to ensure that we are maximizing the throughput of traffic. Specific to coal operations on the Central operating region, we are working directly with those customers in most urgent need. To aid in this effort, we have also focused manpower and locomotive resources in the Central region to restore

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velocity. Our headcount in the Central region is up 5% (more than 250 employees) and locomotives dedicated to coal service are up 307 units over 2013. We are undertaking several innovative employee programs to ensure crew availability is maximized including a vacation buyback program and incentives for eligible TY&E employees to stay past their eligible retirement date for 6 or 12 months.

As we have said before, our recovery is slow and uneven. We have been hearing frustration from our coal customers in particular about low stockpiles and current deliveries not keeping pace with demand with the potential of running out of inventory. We are working with them to address urgent situations as they arise, but recognize that the present situation must improve.

## Review of Service Metrics:

Attached please find the updated metrics through last week. As in prior reports, the terminal dwell for the system and for each of the three operating regions has consistently been lower than the February 7 baseline, but we have not met the system-wide dwell goal. Train speeds in the three regions have not seen substantial improvement due to the operational challenges, particularly in the Northern and Central regions. Despite not seeing an increase in train speeds, we have seen another sizeable reduction in the total number of agricultural past due cars—nearly 2,100 cars since our last report. We remain behind on the goal for the second quarter of 2014 that we set earlier in the year on coal deliveries and intermodal system transit days. We believe we have the necessary resources in place and targeted to the right locations for gradual, but steady improvement in restoring velocity and service on a network that continues to experience stress due to the recent weather-related velocity issues.

## Conclusion:

We will continue to update the Board with these measures on a biweekly basis, and participate in weekly calls with STB staff, as a supplement to our ongoing communications campaign with our customers to provide up-to-date information. We invite the Commissioners and Board staff to visit our Service Overview webpage (<u>http://www.bnsf.com/customers/service-page/index.html</u>), which collects all our ongoing communications in one place for easy access by our customers.

Sincerely,

Carl R. Ice President & CEO

Attachments



Metrics
Service
Dashboard
BNSF

Change from Goal	<b>1</b> 64.6%	<b>1</b> 74.1%	Change from Baseline	① 13.5%	4 11.8%	<b>4</b> 15.6%	<b>4</b> 2.3%
Actuals 6/13	12,202	29.6	Actuals QTD 6/13	21.8	4.69	29.2	21.3
Baseline 2/7	9,982	15.6	Baseline 2/1-2/7	19.2	5.32	34.6	21.8
Goal 6/13	7,411	17.0	Goal Q2 2014	23.7	4.00	28.0	N/A
	Past Due Cars # of Cars	Avg Days Late		Coal Avg Monthly Tons (in millions)	IM System Transit Days	AAR Terminal Dwell Hours	AAR Train Speed





North Dakota Ag Past Due Cars



Data through June 13, 2014

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Sugar Cars Spotted - North Dakota







**Central Region** 



8

**South Region** 



0

<b>BNSF Long-Term Actions to Add Capacity</b>	g-Term A	ctions	to Add	Capacity
\$ Millions	Annual Goal	YTD Q2 Goal	Prior Period (YTD 5/30)	Current Period (YTD 6/13)
People Hiring TY&E	3,000	1,750	1,344	1,497
Eng & Mech	2,000	1,500	1,436	1,668
Locomotive Acquisitions	500	237	191	214
Car – Acquisitions, Replacements & Extensions	5,000	1,750	749	785
Expansion Capital	\$ 900	\$ 360	\$ 182*	\$ 261*
Replacement & Maint Capital	\$ 2,300	\$ 1,090	\$ 682*	\$ 896*
				BNSF

\* YTD 5/30 represents through April 2014 and YTD 6/13 represents YTD through May 2014.

10

System TYE Employees Hired & l rair



\* Actual is YTD through 6/13/14, plan is YTD through 6/30/14.

Actual



North TYE Employees Hired & Trained



\* Actual is YTD through 6/13/14, plan is YTD through 6/30/14.

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<b>Dakota Capacity and Reliability</b>	Replacement & Maintenance Capital
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North Dakota	\$ Millions	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$25	07¢	\$15	\$10	\$5	\$0	•		Cumulative	Actual	